

1. Towards the "Conference of the Left" and the Urgency of the Moment

1. The Black Consciousness Movement United (BCMU) is a socialist Movement, guided by the philosophy of Black Consciousness and the ideology of Marxism - Leninism in its efforts and contribution in the struggle against the system of global neoliberal capitalism, racism, neo-colonialism and all forms of oppression and exploitation. In our country, Azania, the BCMU seeks to transform the existing system of neoliberal capitalism and racism. Our ultimate aim and objective is to establish social, economic and political power under the control and direction, chartered by the Azanian Working Class for the realization of a socialist workers Republic of Azania.

2. The BCMU's position and participation in the hotly debated and contentious "Conference of the Left" is informed by the urgency of the moment regarding at least two main historical and current conjunctures and associated quandaries or political dilemmas requiring urgent attention and resolution. Firstly, the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism to which nation states including our country, are integrated, is characterized by an escalating crisis which ranges between structural, systemic and episodic crisis. These challenges of the system of global capitalism and its neoliberal project manifest themselves at the nation state level and assume the form of high and increasing unemployment and underemployment of workers, youth, women, and other marginalized and Excluded groups, regardless of the level of skills and education attained. The system of neoliberal capitalism has reconfigured and created new capital - labour relations, resulting in contract, part-time, temporary, outsourced, informal, non-unionized and other forms of precarious and insecure work and employment. These reconfigured and new capital - labour relations coexist with mass poverty, landlessness, social polarization and degradation, continuously declining standards of living of the workers, popular forces, the marginalized and the Excluded.

3. The system of global capitalism and its neoliberal project in the Twenty First century has been facing difficult challenges. It has suffered challenges of political legitimacy at the nation state levels on a global scale for a variety of historical and current factors. In our country and in other neoliberal nation states in different continents, the Black working class and popular forces have lost confidence and trust in both an ANC government and the Government of National Unity in its capacity to deliver services and improve the standard of living of the majority of the population. There is an increasing credibility gap between the neoliberal state and Black people, the majority of the population. The system of neoliberal capitalism has also generated a crisis of social polarization as it cannot meet the basic needs of the majority of the population in society. The system is increasingly finding it difficult to even assure minimal social reproduction. There is continuous downward pressure on the standard of living of the majority of the population.

4. The urgency of the moment in relation to the crisis of global neoliberal capitalism involves a critical assessment of the response from below by all those who are anti-capitalist and socialist-oriented in outlook as well as in political, collective action. Such a critical assessment of the response from below, invariably includes the allies of the working class and the popular forces. The expected response from below is and must be two-fold. The response from below must inevitably be guided and directed by feasible, theoretical and practical responses and solutions. We have just made reference to the specific objective conditions confronted by the oppressed and exploited people in our country and the world, generated by the system of

global capitalism and racism. These specific problems posed by the political, social, and economic reality demand immediate attention, theoretical guidance and action.

5. Critical questions and the understanding of the state of the present world of neoliberal capitalism and racism are an important but insufficient condition of the struggle against oppression and exploitation. We must also ask ourselves critical questions about the state of our political, revolutionary parties and Movements as well as the state of social and protest movements that are engaged in the struggle against the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism at the nation state level. We must ask : What is to be Done to address the current state of our Revolutionary and Political Organizations and Movements as well as social and protest movements that are engaged in ongoing struggle against the system of neoliberal capitalism and racism? What is to be Done to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in the capabilities and capacity in the socialist struggle against the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism? What is our vision and mission and how can we move towards attaining our vision and mission of an alternative, possible world and society to live in?

6. The BCMU, however, is in no illusion, that this "Conference of the Left " represents and is constitutive of a Forum of the revolutionary avant-garde or anti - capitalist and socialist - oriented political activists and revolutionaries where all these critical questions and feasible, practical solutions can be responded to adequately and effectively. Far from it. This so - called "Conference of the Left " is, a potpourri of reformists, radicals and revolutionaries, to say the list. But this is to be expected whenever a conference - called upon to discuss the challenges of the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism and possible feasible solutions thereto, among other things, - is cloaked in nebulous terms such as "the Left". In April 2026, for example, a major international summit held in Barcelona, Spain, brought together leaders and Heads of neoliberal capitalist states from across Europe, Latin America and Africa. These leaders and Heads of neoliberal capitalist states referred to themselves as "Left - wing "and "progressive. They also convened a "Conference of the Left " to discuss and defend neoliberal democracy, defend the global capitalist institutions referred to as multilateralism, strengthen neoliberal 'progressive alliances' and counter the rising influence of the far right, neo - fascist forces.

7. Certainly, beyond the cloak of the nebulous Left, there must be substance that deserves attention and critical examination geared at progress. In order to make progress and advance the struggle against the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism, beyond the cloak of the nebulous Left, there is a need to reunite theory with history in order to facilitate the unity of theory with practice. In the Twentieth century, social democracy and the welfare state constituted a radical reform of the classical system of capitalism, brought about by a potpourri of trade unions, socialists, communists and other mass struggles from below. Since the turn of the Twenty First century, different social and protest movements have fought against austerity measures, endemic corruption, social and economic inequality, unemployment, environmental degradation and so on. Vibrant working class and popular protests and resistance have occurred at nation state level and globally.

8. Anti - globalization or 'anti - capitalist protest movements have waged campaigns against the global financial institutions, the World Trade Organization, the World Economic Forum and the Wall Street financial institutions in the past two decades. The capitalist crisis of state legitimacy, integrated with structural and systemic crisis has opened up space for revolutionary and popular forces from below to challenge the existing neoliberal political, social and economic order and way of life. However, the neoliberal capitalist system has also opened up space for the far right forces that compete with populist, reformist, radical and revolutionary forces. All these forces seize the initiative and engage in mass mobilization and active participation in the struggle against the system of neoliberal

capitalism and racism. The proliferation of mass movements and popular uprisings in our country and elsewhere in the world, is essentially directed at the realization and fulfilment of specific demands made to the neoliberal state and government.

9. From the vantage point of the historical and current struggle against the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism, it is possible to contextualize the existing pot pourri of reformists, radicals and revolutionaries in this Conference, cloaked in the nebulous Left. Despite the acknowledged and appreciated positive contributions and struggles from diverse and numerous fronts against the system of global capitalism and its neoliberal project, it is imperative to subject ourselves to constructive self - criticism in order to develop a feasible and viable Program of Action for implementation beyond the Conference.

10. To begin with, the global revolt and resistance from below, the struggle of the working class, the precariat, the marginalized and the Excluded is unevenly spread and fragmented. It is prone to absorption by capitalist ideology and culture. Different organizations pursue widely distinct objectives in diverse ways. Occasionally, they are bound to come into conflict with one another. There is an absence of a common minimum agenda, a broad strategic framework and strategies against the system of global capitalism and the neoliberal project. The focus of the working class struggle appears to have shifted fundamentally towards sectional interests and the defence of organizational autonomy, which, in turn, have clouded mutual complementarity in the struggle against neoliberal capitalism. There is thus an urgent need for clarity of objectives and careful selection of targets when campaigning against important features or consequences of the system of global neoliberal capitalism and racism.

11. Social and protest movements engaged in a struggle for basic needs satisfaction, the redistribution of income and wealth downwards and the extension of welfare are essentially engaged in a struggle for reforming the system of neoliberal capitalism. Reform is part of struggle. But there appears to be a lack of a radical and revolutionary ideology and a vision of a transformative project beyond immediate demands. The centrality of the Political appears to be missing in the ranks of the social, protest and resistance movements. The existence of weak and fragmented socialist Revolutionary Parties and Movements, unable to take advantage of the current crisis of global neoliberal capitalism whose dimensions and consequences are manifested at the nation state level, have debilitated the working class and popular struggles. This conference, notwithstanding its contested status regarding the nebulous Left, should at least, provide a broad rudder to address some of these challenges and help steering the working class and popular struggles into a larger emancipatory project, a program of action and a strategy to push such a project forward.

AMANDLA! ONE AZANIA! ONE NATION.